

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
DODE-00 NSC-05 /065 W
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R 170915Z SEP 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5960
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
FPA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 08917

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: MEETING OF THE
EDITORIAL BOARD

REF: STATE 208996 DTG 312343Z AUG 77.

1. WE WERE BRIEFED BY THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF (KING-HARMON) ON THE RESULTS OF THE NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1977. WASHINGTON WILL RECALL THAT ASYG PLANS AND POLICY (MUMFORD) ESTABLISHED THE EDITORIAL BOARD AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE FOR GUIDING THE WORK OF THE NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES TASK FORCES.

2. FOR THE DECEMBER 77 REPORT TO MINISTERS, THE EDITORIAL BOARD REQUESTED THE TASK FORCE DIRECTORS (TFD) TO SUBMIT THEIR REPORTS, BY NOVEMBER 1, IN THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTED
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FORMAT:

- (1) STATEMENT OF AIM/OBJECTIVE.

- (2) STATEMENT OF PROGRESS: DATA COLLECTION, COOPERATION WITH CAPITALS, ASSURANCES THAT TORS ARE BEING OBSERVED (ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS THE CRITERIA OF AFFORDABILITY AND

FEASIBILITY) AND THAT ASSUMPTIONS HAVE PROPER AUTHORITY.

- (3) LIST OF LIMITED PRIORITY MEASURES LIKELY TO BE
SUBMITTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

3. THE EDITORIAL BOARD DECIDED TO CALL THE FORMAT
"SUGGESTED" BECAUSE THE EWG ITSELF SHOULD APPROVE ITS FINAL
FORM. MUMFORD INTENDS TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF THE FORMAT
FOR THE DECEMBER REPORT TO MINISTERS UNDER "ANY OTHER
BUSINESS" AT THE SEPTEMBER 20 EWG MEETING. WE BELIEVE
THE FORMAT IN PARA 2 ABOVE MEETS US DESIRES (PARA 5,
REFTEL) AND RECOMMEND WE BE AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT IT.

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE SPRING 1978 REPORTS, THE EDITORIAL
BOARD AGREED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

- (1) SHAPE AND SACLANT WERE ASKED TO TAKE PRELIMINARY
SOUNDINGS OF THE TFDS AND SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
INTERNATIONAL STAFF IN EARLY OCTOBER.

- (2) THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF WILL WORK THEIR THINKING
INTO THE MNC RECOMMENDATIONS DURING THE FIRST TEN DAYS OF
OCTOBER.

- (3) THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF WILL CIRCULATE A PAPER AND
SEEK AGREEMENT AT AN END-OCTOBER EWG MEETING.
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WE BELIEVE THIS TIMING CORRESPONDS TO US DESIRES (PARA 6,
REFTEL) FOR AN EARLY EWG DECISION ON THE FORMAT REQUIRE-
MENTS FOR THE SPRING REPORTS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MUMFORD
WILL NOT, REPEAT NOT, RAISE THIS ISSUE AT THE SEPTEMBER 20
EWG MEETING BECAUSE HE BELIEVES THE AGENDA IS ALREADY
AMBITIOUS AND THAT EWG MEMBERS SHOULD BE PROVIDED A STAFF
PAPER PRIOR TO DISCUSSIONS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON AUTHORIZATION BY OOB
SEPTEMBER 20 TO ACCEPT THE FORMAT IN PARA 2 ABOVE.
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